



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-8900

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: February 1, 2006

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(h): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of an offer to dedicate fee title over the approximately 72-acre Little Las Flores Conservation property (APNs 4448-007-053, 054, 055, and 056), or a conservation easement over said property, Little Las Flores Canyon watershed, pursuant to Pepperdine University Graduate Campus Project Conditional Use Permit No. 97-191-(3), unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of an offer to dedicate fee title over the approximately 72-acre Little Las Flores Conservation property (APNs 4448-007-053, 054, 055, and 056), or a conservation easement over said property, Little Las Flores Canyon watershed, pursuant to Pepperdine University Graduate Campus Project Conditional Use Permit No. 97-191-(3).

Background: One condition of Pepperdine University's Conditional Use Permit No. 97-191-(3) for the development of a new graduate school campus at its Malibu campus is to record a conservation easement for the approximately 72-acre parcel owned by the University in Little Las Flores Canyon. The conservation easement shall be replaced by a fee dedication when any issues inconsistent with the acquisition policies of the park agencies in the Santa Monica Mountains are resolved. This is one of several conditions required of the University for this project. See also Item VI(i) on today's agenda.

The proposed action would authorize acceptance of an offer to dedicate fee title, or a conservation easement over, the subject property. Staff's understanding is that all parties intend that this will be a fee title dedication.

The property is north of and adjacent to Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA)-owned Tuna Canyon Park and east of MRCA-owned Las Flores Canyon Park. The property contains a portion of a blue line stream, which is a well developed riparian woodland, in Little Las Flores Canyon.

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There are alleged trespassing and other violations on the property due to someone using and improving the dirt road. These violations should be resolved either before or after property transfer. The dirt road is a dedicated County road. The Department of Public Works is looking into the situation. In any case, the property should be accepted. This dirt road provides a ready-to-do trail of approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile in length.